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man's unsupported statement that Jefferson was unofficially notified in 1802 of Napoleon's willingness to sell Louisiana is accepted, although at variance with the story of Napoleon's sudden decision in the following year, which is quoted from Marbois. Much is made of Captain Shelvocke's supposed discovery of gold in California in 1720, but it does not appear that Captain Shelvocke touched only the extreme southern point of Lower California and never saw any part of the territory acquired by the United States. The so-called "flathead delegation" is assigned to 1832, although recent discussion has shown that it took place the preceding year. Whitman's ride is mentioned very briefly, but without indicating any modification of the author's opinions in regard to it. It is hardly accurate to say that our government claimed that Bering Sea was a *mare clausum*. The House resolution, quoted in construction of the Monroe doctrine, should be dated 1826 instead of 1825. It is at least open to question whether this resolution may fairly be said to have been adopted. It was passed by a close vote as an amendment to a resolution affirming the expediency of the Panama mission, and then the resolution as amended was overwhelmingly defeated.

F. H. H.

Mallet du Pan and the French Revolution. By BERNARD MALLET. (London, New York, and Bombay: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1902. Pp. xx, 368.)

BARTHÉLEMY, the diplomatic representative of the convention at Berne, reported to his superiors in 1794 his opinion of Mallet du Pan in these words: "On ne peut se dissimuler que ce Genevois est une vraie mèche d'enfer pour notre pays." Over against this republican opinion may be placed the words spoken at this time by the future Louis XVIII., who was living at Verona as the titular regent of France: "Ce diable d'homme qu'on ne pouvait parvenir à faire taire." These two significant phrases show that the Terrorists whom Mallet bitterly denounced and the Royalists whom he tried faithfully to serve held practically the same opinion of the able Genevan observer and writer who sought to save France from the absurdities of the old tyranny of monarchy without delivering her over to the excesses of a new tyranny of democracy. Between the extremes of reaction and of revolution many may have halted in the trying years following 1789, content to say with Sieyès, "J' ai vécu"; but only a few keener and bolder than their fellows dared to take a decided stand upon middle ground, so that Mallet du Pan found himself a member of no party, but of a small coterie of brilliant men who were masters of the science of politics but knew little of the art. The judgments which will be passed upon this book will differ but little from those passed upon the author's great-grandfather more than a century since. The royalist and the clerical will join with the admirer of the Revolution in condemning this book, which represents the views of the small and unpopular minority who can find little on either side in the French Revolution to admire and are so rash as to speak out their opinions.

The book is of course the product of family pride and not of disinterested scholarship, but, as is rarely the case with such productions, the work is the scholarly production of a trained historian, a man who has had excellent opportunity for political observation. Mr. Bernard Mallet, the eldest son of the friend and disciple of Cobden, Sir Lewis Mallet, was a Balliol man and took a first in history in 1882, since which time he has held various government clerkships. Twice he was private secretary to the first lord of the treasury, Mr. Arthur Balfour, a position he resigned in 1897 to become commissioner of inland revenue. With this training and this experience, Mr. Mallet set himself the task of introducing his eighteenth-century ancestor to twentieth-century Englishmen, few of whom have ever heard of the *Mercure Britannique* or of its able editor. The author is, however, in error when he flatters himself that "in England nothing whatever has been published about Mallet du Pan except two articles in the *Edinburgh Review*," for the excellent *Mémoires et Correspondance de Mallet du Pan*, published by M. Sayous in Paris in 1851, was translated into English and published in London in the following year. M. Sayous had access to the family papers upon which the present author has drawn freely, and had the assistance of Mallet du Pan's son, John Lewis Mallet of the English civil service. His work is of course long out of print, and in two places has been greatly supplemented by two important publications of recent date, so that there remains abundant justification for this new volume. The new works alluded to are *Correspondance inédite de Mallet du Pan avec la Cour de Vienne, 1794-1798*, edited by André Michel with a preface by M. Taine, and *La Révolution Française Vue de l'Étranger*, by François Descostes (Tours, 1897). Aside from this one slip in bibliography there is little to criticize in the book, for the author has done his part well. A little more detail and precision in the bibliography would have been helpful, and the index is not complete, for one fails to find in the index four names of considerable importance mentioned on p. 149, one of which should be spelled Cobenzl instead of Cobenzel. A more serious misprint occurs in the first foot-note on p. 186, where the date of the treaty of Basle with Prussia should be 1795 instead of 1791. Paper, type, and binding are all in excellent taste.

Students of the French Revolution, especially in England and America, will be very grateful to Mr. Mallet for this life of his ancestor and for the presentation in such able manner of the views of the constitutional monarchists of 1789, which have hitherto received less attention than they deserve, largely because they never produced any practical results in determining the course of the Revolution. These men themselves believed, for a moment, that they could save France, and many since their day have surmised that had their political sagacity been coupled with ability as politicians and statesmen France might have won for herself and for Europe all of the advantages of the Revolution without the terrible cost in blood and treasure. Though the abilities of Mallet, of Malouet, of Mounier, and even of Mirabeau, who had so much poten-

tially and so little practically in common with these men of 1789, were not fully understood and valued in their own day, the lapse of a century has enabled some better to comprehend their worth and has made their acts, speeches, and writings of the greatest value for the study of the beginnings of the Revolution. M. Taine in his famous work on the Revolution speaks of Mallet du Pan as the "most competent, the most judicious, the most profound observer of the Revolution," and in the introduction to the Vienna correspondence says, "Four observers understood from the beginning the character and bearing of the French Revolution, Rivarol, Malouet, Gouverneur Morris, and Mallet du Pan, the last named more profoundly than the rest." In this latter article Taine likens Mallet to a consulting physician who diagnoses the case correctly from the outset and then watches its progress and chronicles with scientific precision each stage in the development of the disease. No one, not even Morris, was better trained for such impartial observations. Mallet was by birth a republican, an aristocrat, and a Protestant, being a citizen of Geneva. To this birthright he added several years of excellent training received through constant intercourse with Voltaire at Ferney. The ideas of Montesquieu early appealed to him more than did those of the other great thinkers of eighteenth-century France; and his residence in Germany, England, and France in later years made him, like Montesquieu, a strong admirer of English institutions. The important period of his life began in 1783, when he accepted the invitation of the publisher Panckoucke and moved to Paris to assume the duties of political editor of the *Mercur de France*, the most important French journal of the time. His articles, always brilliant, became after the cessation of the censorship in 1789 the most enlightening comments upon passing events both in France and in the other countries of Europe. Camille Desmoulins's significant pun "Mallet pendu" indicates the popular opinion of Mallet's journalism and tells why he abandoned the *Mercur* and took refuge beyond the frontier in the spring of 1792. The next six years were spent as a secret agent of Louis XVI., and later as the confidential adviser of the Bourbon princes, of the émigrés, and of the allies, notably the Emperor, England, and Portugal. The successes of Bonaparte made even the continent unsafe for Mallet, and in 1798 he moved his family to England, where he sought to support them by the publication of the *Mercur Britannique*, which he continued until a few weeks before his death on May 10, 1800. During all these seventeen years Mallet was dependent upon the pay from his journalism, from the émigrés, or from the allies, but his judgment was never influenced by the fact, and he always spoke his opinions with the utmost frankness. Mallet took the greatest pains to organize a personal secret service and a system of correspondence which kept him thoroughly acquainted with events in all parts of France and in other parts of Europe, so that he was the best-informed man on the events that were passing. Thus, being a trained observer, he was best able to give sound, though seldom acceptable, advice to those whom he sought to serve. Mallet's political principles

might be reduced to two, order and liberty. He might well have said with Mirabeau, "I desire order but not the old order," and with Burke, "The only liberty I mean is the liberty connected with order."

Perhaps the most extraordinary instance of Mallet du Pan's political insight is contained in the following lines written in 1781 before the battle of Yorktown :

"Independent or not the United States will emerge from this disastrous war with the hope of profit from it. Their commerce will be free, sooner or later it will embrace the fisheries of all their shores and of the new world and the trade in furs, it will reach to the Antilles, to the Spanish possessions, and even to the East Indies ; a line of communication will be theirs which no European fleet will be able to cut. Nature which has placed the insurgent States in the midst of the Atlantic has so ordered it ; and the moment has arrived when our continent will be forced to admit it."

GEORGE M. DUTCHER.

The Life of Napoleon I. By JOHN HOLLAND ROSE, M.A. (New York : The Macmillan Company. 1901. Two volumes, pp. xvii, 471 ; viii, 547.)

WE have delayed our notice of this important book for several reasons. In the first place, it is long and the style is difficult ; in the second place, it puts forth an important claim as being the first life of Napoleon to include new materials from the British official records ; in the third place, it is the first effort of a British historian at impartiality and self-control in describing the heroic age of modern English history. For these reasons the two stout volumes demand respectful and deliberate examination, and this the reviewer has endeavored to bestow.

The general impression left upon the intelligent reader will probably be one of some weariness, but it will be the weariness of one who has accomplished a good work. Such erudition, such accumulation and orderly arrangement of detail, such marshaling of fact and authority, such patient examination of every source ; all alike testify to Mr. Rose's indefatigable industry and unwearied research. It is safe to say that nothing of value either in the published literature of his subject or in the papers of the London Record Office has escaped him. On the other hand, we are all familiar with the conscientious, laborious, and sometimes invigorating "constitutional" which sedentary men force themselves to take for health. The "constitutional" leads no whither, is a duty to be done and not a pleasure to be enjoyed, strengthens but does not stimulate. The blood does not course freer, the heart beat higher, or the brain devise bright thoughts because of the "constitutional." And we fear that both the reader and the student will lay down these volumes with a sense of wonder that one so learned as the writer could exhibit so little of interest, curiosity, or mastery in discussing the ultimate problems and settling the questions which throng in a life the most brilliant, the most fascinating, and the most productive of weighty consequence among all that have been lived in the nineteenth century. When the author compares Na-